**The Pyramids of Egypt**





The **ancient** Egyptians are known for being great architects and builders. During the years 3000-2500 BC, the ancient Egyptians spent a lot of time building its pyramids in Egypt. It is believed that *Imhotep* was the **architect** who first thought the idea of a pyramid.

The pyramids were built as **tomb**s for the rulers of Egypt, the Pharaohs. Inside the pyramids the bodies of the dead Pharaohs were placed in a **coffin** and then in a room called a ‘**chamber**’. Moreover, things like **treasure**, food, oil,

**weapons**, medicine, candles, cups and other belongings were kept inside for the Pharaohs. The tombs were decorated with **hieroglyphics** and pictures.

The dead bodies were **mummified** to preserve the body after death. This **ritual** was very important to the **tradition** of **honouring** the person after they had died. It also meant that the family could say goodbye to the dead.



The ancient Egyptians believed that it was important to remember the dead person’s intelligence, **character**, personality and things that he/she did when she/he was alive. By preserving the dead person’s body it was a way of showing **respect**.

The ancient Egyptians would **preserve** the bodies by taking out the **internal organs** and **drain** all the water from the bodies. The only organ left inside was the heart. The process of **mummification** took about 40 days.

Many of the pyramids still stand today and you can visit them at Giza, Khufu, Saqqara, Dahshur, Abu Rawash and many other places in Egypt.



By studying the pyramids and what was inside we can learn a lot about the ancient Egyptians and their beliefs. Firstly, we learn that they had excellent **techniques** of preserving the bodies. Secondly, we can see that they understood a lot about medicine. Moreover, by doing tests on the mummies scientists can tell a lot about ancient Egyptians’ health. Some of the mummies bodies show that they were **malnourished** because of famine or drought.

